

ABSTRACT

WA-I-234

1853

**Rowland-Fisher House
Hagerstown
private**

This complex, consisting of a two story brick house with a recessed double porch, dated 1853, and an apparently older small stone dwelling built over a spring of water is primarily significant for its architecture. Together the structures provide examples of two major types of Washington County's early architecture. Although this property is no longer a farm, it was for many years agriculturally productive and thus its contribution to the history of farming in this area should be noted.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-I-234
District 9
Map 25
Parcel 502

2202213504

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Rowland-Fisher House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

300 Meadowbrook Drive

(Now on Bonnie Court?)

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

John N. Fisher

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

300 Meadowbrook Drive

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21740

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Historical Sites Survey

Liber #: 591

Folio #: 699

STREET & NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED \leq 50%

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located at 300 Meadowbrook Drive in Spring Valley Estates north of Hagerstown in Washington County, Maryland. It is situated north of the street on sloping ground near a spring just south of the west branch of Marsh Run. It faces south. Although the house is located in a residential subdivision, it was once the dwelling on a hundred acre farm owned by Jonas and Anne Rowland.

The main building on the property is a two story, six bay brick house set on fieldstone foundations which become a full story in height at the rear where the ground surface slopes downward toward the creek. The bricks forming the walls are laid in American bond at all elevations with varying numbers of stretcher rows between courses of headers. The two western bays of the front elevation are set back beneath a recessed double porch. Flat arches of brick top the window and door openings.

Windows have narrow wooden frames finished with a bead at the inside edge. Nine over six light double hung sashes are present at the first and second stories while six over six sashes are used at the ground level in the east and north elevations. First story windows at the front elevation are flanked with pairs of three panel shutters while those at the second story level have louvered shutters.

The main entrance is located in the second bay from the east end of the house. It is framed similarly to the windows and includes a four light transom above an eight panel door with matching jambs. The entrance is sheltered by a modern porch. Under the recessed double porch six panel doors hung beneath three light transoms are located at the first and second story levels. The double porch, lit by windows at the first and second stories in the west end elevation is supported by chamfered posts. Attached to the posts are railings with square balusters. Evidence remains of a door in the main story of the east end wall and a small entrance porch which provided access to it.

The roof is sheathed with modern shingles and terminates with barge boards set directly against the end walls. Brick chimneys are located inside each gable end at the interior of the structure.

Written in pencil in the attic of the house is the date 1853 and the names Jonas and Anne Rowland.

Located northwest of the main house is a small stone structure which was at one time used as a dwelling. The building is one and a half stories in height and is situated at a steep bank, facing south at the edge of the west branch of Marsh Run. The house is constructed directly over a spring of water. Attached to its west gable end is a small stone room with a sloping roof which is sheathed with what appear to be original wooden shingles. A projecting gable roofed entrance area which displays massive timber framing leads from the main door over a walkway to the top of a terraced bank. The porch structure shows evidence of having had a lath and plaster covering at one time. No decorative masonry is associated with the coursed fieldstone exterior of the house.

(Continued)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
REHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES 1853 Jonas and Anne Rowland
(Written in attic) BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This complex, consisting of a two story brick house with a recessed double porch, dated 1853, and an apparently older small stone dwelling built over a spring of water is primarily significant for its architecture. Together the structures provide examples of two major types of Washington County's early architecture. Although this property is no longer a farm, it was for many years agriculturally productive and thus its contribution to the history of farming in this area should be noted.

Brick houses like this one with part of their front elevations indented to accommodate a double porch form an important group in the development of architecture of Washington County and the Cumberland Valley. The 1853 date found in this house is consistent with other dated examples which generally range from 1840-1860.

The small stone dwelling appears to predate the brick house. Although its interior woodwork seems to be associated with the second quarter of the 19th century, the practice of building directly over a spring, and the presence of the vaulted cellar room are more characteristic of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The timber framed porch addition appears more massive than necessary for such a structure. Its construction is not consistent with that employed elsewhere in the building. Thus, it may have been taken from another structure.

On September 15, 1837, Samuel Gilbert and Margaret, his wife, sold a farm of slightly more than 101 acres to Jonas Rowland for \$6,000. (TT/100). The land was part of a tract called "Long Meadow Enlarged." By 1865 Jonas Rowland had died. His wife, Anne purchased the farm from his estate for \$10,162.50. (LBN1/121). Anne Rowland held the property until April 6, 1874, when she sold it to Daniel N. Scheller for \$14,000. (83/100). In 1902 the farm was purchased by Jacob A. Snively (117/172). It remained in the Snively family until 1921 when it was purchased by George W. Petrie (156/210. 159/612). It was held by the Petrie family until 1942 when it was sold to Frank P. and Carrie B. Litton. (200/485, 221/133). It was purchased by J. Lee Mullendore and Richard K. Hershey in 1963 (393/554). They in turn sold lots number 54 and 55 of Spring Valley Estates to Daniel W. and Ann E. Moylan in 1967. (457/579). It was purchased by the present owners in 1975.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Washington County Land Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.64 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Washington County Historical Sites Survey

DATE

July 1976

STREET & NUMBER

County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street

TELEPHONE

791-3065

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Moderately wide window and door frames display pegged joining and hold six over six light sashes or plain vertical board doors. The roof is sheathed with sheet metal. A brick chimney is located inside the east gable end. The ground story of the house contains a fire place which is located in the same room with the spring. A second room at the ground level, presumably a root cellar, has a large barrel vaulted ceiling of radiating coursed stones. The main story has one room with a stair leading to an overhead loft.

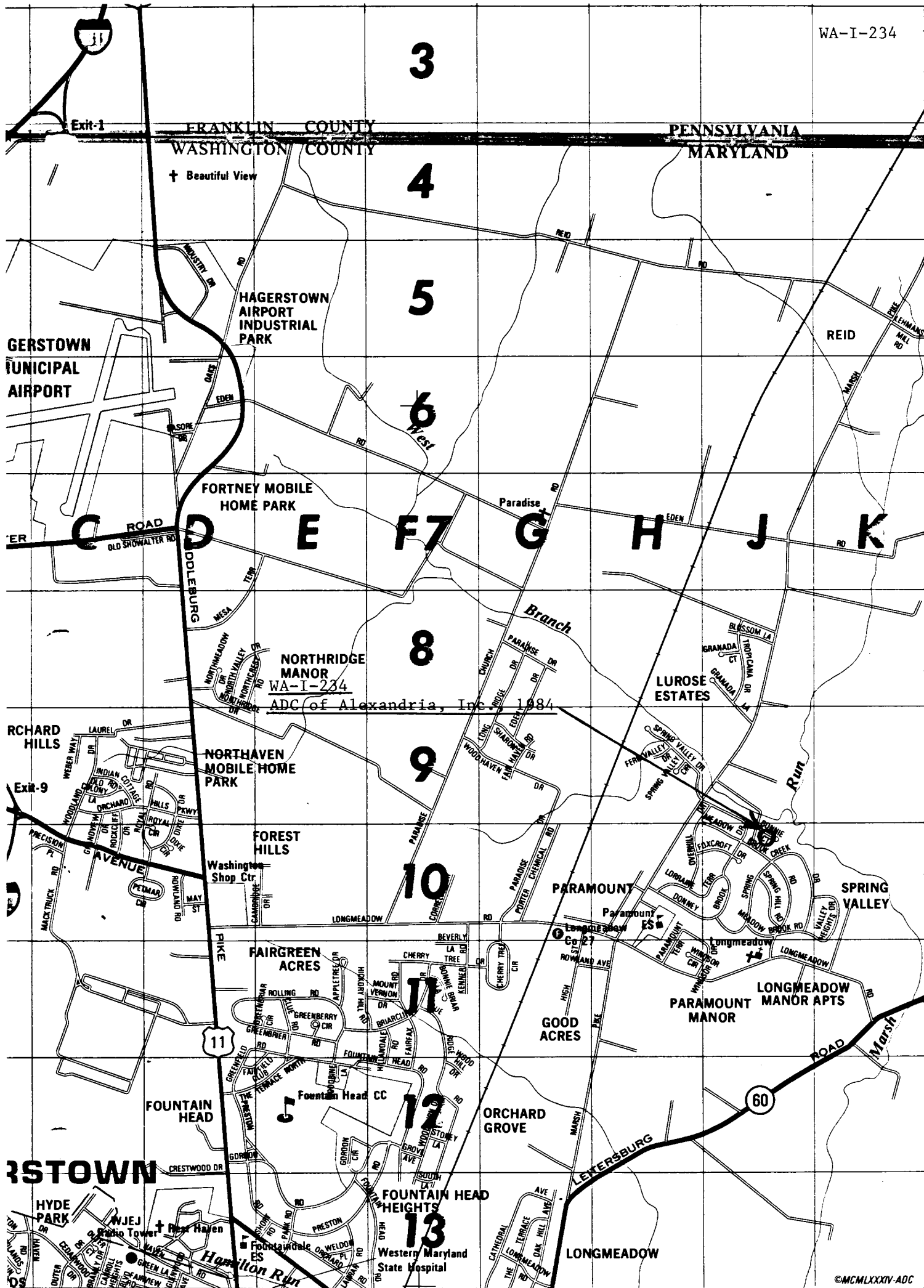
The brick house is in excellent condition and the stone structure appears deteriorated. The property consists of two lots, numbers 54 and 55 of Spring Valley Estates, containing 1.64 acres.

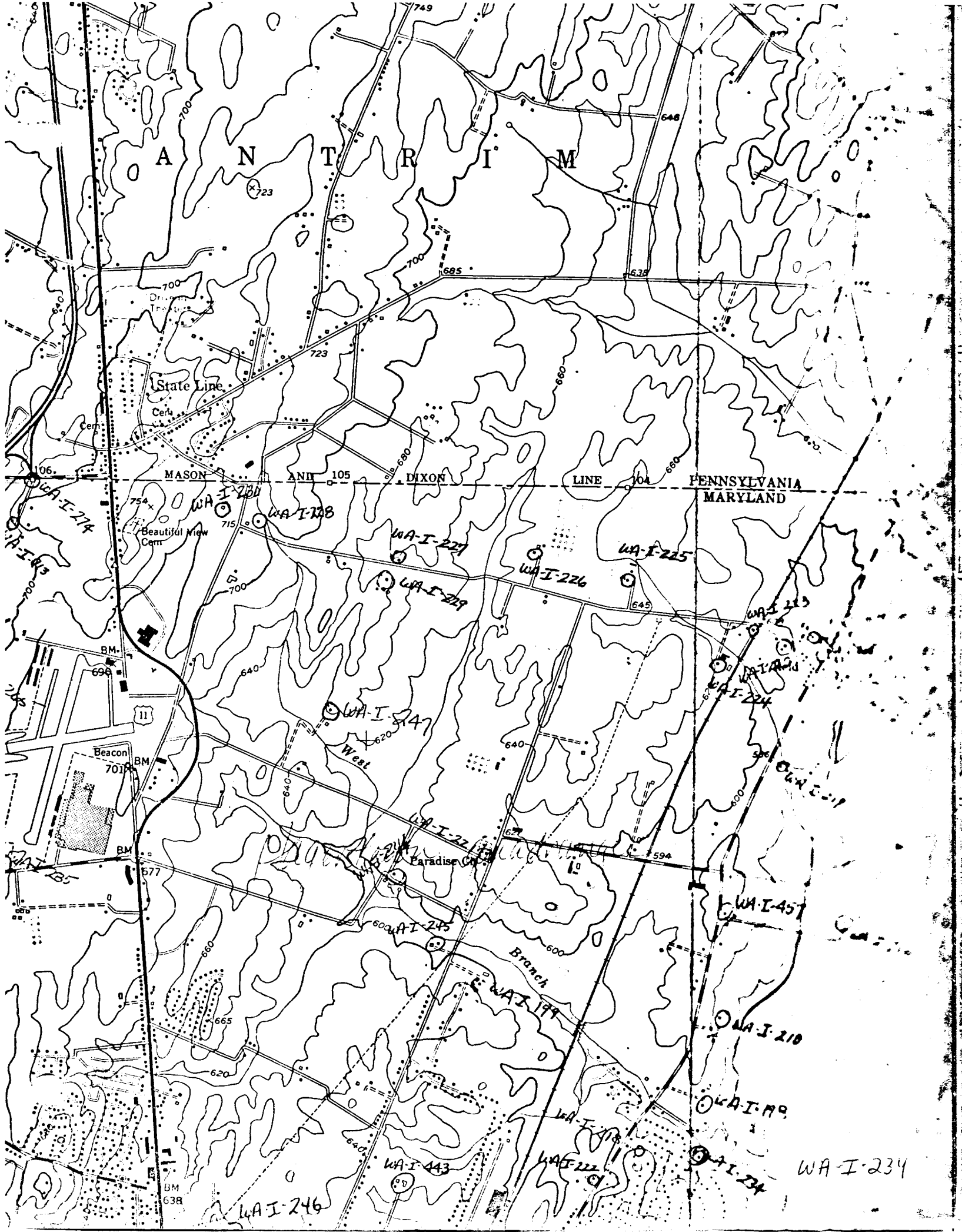
RIGHTS

State Hospital

RSTOWN

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WHS-234

E. Shiner

10/10/14

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



234

50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

1991

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37-5-257

10 240000 100

60400 1000

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